Exhibit "A"

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1	IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
2	FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
3	SAN JOSE DIVISION
4	
5	GARY KREMEN, ) C-98-20718-JW
6	PLAINTIFF, ) NOVEMBER 14, 2005
7	V. )
8	STEPHEN MICHAEL COHEN, ) PAGES 1-24
9	ET AL.,
10	DEFENDANTS. )
11	THE PROCEEDINGS WERE HELD BEFORE
12	THE HONORABLE UNITED STATES DISTRICT
13	JUDGE JAMES WARE
14	APPEARANCES:
15	FOR THE PLAINTIFF: IDELL, BERMAN, SEITEL & RUTCHIK
16	BY: RICHARD J. IDELL 465 CALIFORNIA STREET
17	SUITE 300 SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA
18	94104
19	FOR THE DEFENDANTS: THE LAW OFFICES OF JOHN GOALWIN  BY: JOHN GOALWIN
20	350 SOUTH FIGUEROA STREET SUITE 499
21	LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90071
22	THE LAW OFFICES OF ROGER AGAJANIAN
23	BY: ROGER AGAJANIAN THE ATRIUM BUILDING
24	19200 VON KARMAN AVENUE IRVINE, CALIFORNIA 92612
25	OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER: IRENE RODRIGUEZ, CSR, CRR
	CERTIFICATE NUMBER 8074
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1	SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA NOVEMBER 14, 2005
2	PROCEEDINGS
3	
4	(WHEREUPON, COURT CONVENED AND THE
5	FOLLOWING PROCEEDINGS WERE HELD:)
6	THE CLERK: CALLING THE FIRST MATTER
7	CIVIL 98-20718, GARY KREMEN VERSUS STEPHEN MICHAEL
8	COHEN. ON FOR HEARING ON WARRANT REGARDING ORDER
9	TO SHOW CAUSE ON CONTEMPT.
10	COUNSEL, COME FORWARD AND STATE YOUR
11	APPEARANCE.
12 .	MR. GOALWIN: JOHN GOALWIN. I PAID THE
13	FEES AND I'M ADMITTED TO THE CENTRAL DISTRICT, AND
14	I PAID THE FEES FOR PRO HAEC VICE AND I'M HERE WITH
15	ROGER AGAJANIAN.
16	MR. AGAJANIAN: ROGER AGAJANIAN,
17	A-G-A-J-A-N-I-A-N.
18	THE COURT: GOOD AFTERNOON, COUNSEL.
19	AND, MR. COHEN, I PRESUME.
20	DEFENDANT COHEN: YES.
21	THE COURT: YOU ARE BEFORE THE COURT AS A
22	RESULT OF THE COURT HAVING ISSUED A WARRANT GROWING
23	OUT OF A CIVIL ACTION PENDING IN THE COURT AND I
24	WAS ADVISED OF SOME TIMING THAT YOU HAD BEEN
25	ARRESTED ON THE WARRANT AND WOULD BE BROUGHT BEFORE

15:23:30 1	
2 2:י נ	
15:23:38 3	
15:23:40 4	
15:23:46 5	
15:23:48 6	
15:23:50 7	
15:23:52 8	
15:23:56 9	
15:23:58 10	
15:24:06 11	
15:24:08 12	
15:24:08 13	
: :10 14	
15:24:12 15	
15:24:14 16	
15:24:18 17	
15:24:20 18	
15:24:24 19	
15:24:30 20	
15:24:32 21	
15:24:36 22	
15:24:38 23	
15:24:44 24	
15:24:48 25	

THE COURT: EXACTLY. I WANT ALL OF THAT OUTLINED SO THAT YOU ADVISE ME WHAT IS OUTSTANDING.

MR. IDELL: SO YOU DON'T EXPECT US TO HAVE A DEPOSITION MEETING BY MONDAY?

THE COURT: NO, NO. IN FACT, I WANT TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT IT'S REASONABLE ON YOUR PART TO WANT TO HAVE CERTAIN DOCUMENTS DELIVERED TO YOU BEFORE YOU ENGAGE IN THE DEPOSITION BECAUSE IT MAKES IT AN INFORMED DEPOSITION.

THE CLERK: REMAND HIM INTO CUSTODY?

MR. GOALWIN: MR. COHEN WOULD LIKE TO

ADDRESS THE COURT.

THE COURT: MR. COHEN.

THE DEFENDANT: FIRST OF ALL, I WANT TO

MAKE A COUPLE OF COMMENTS IF I CAN. I AM AWARE OF

THE CONTEMPT ORDERS THAT HAVE BEEN ISSUED AGAINST

ME AND I'M FAMILIAR WITH THE TERMS THAT THE COURT

HAD SET AND I HAD A DUTY TO APPEAR BEFORE YOUR

COURT ONCE I BECAME AWARE OF THAT AND I CLEARLY DID

NOT APPEAR.

I WANT TO MAKE IT CLEAR TO THE COURT THAT

AT THE TIME THAT I WAS SERVED WITH THIS LAWSUIT I

WAS LIVING IN MEXICO AND I CONTINUE TO LIVE IN

MEXICO AND I CAME TO THE UNITED STATES AND I

PURCHASED THE HOUSE THAT, THAT MY EX-WIFE ENDED UP

15:24:52 1 3 1:58 2 15:24:58 3 15:25:00 4 15:25:04 5 15:25:08 6 15:25:10 7 15:25:14 8 15:25:20 9 15:25:20 10 15:25:24 11 15:25:30 12 15:25:36 13 :40 1 4 15:25:44 15 15:25:50 16 15:25:56 17 15:25:58 18 15:26:00 19 15:26:0620 15:26:0821 15:26:1022 15:26:1423 15:26:1824 15:26:22 25

WITH AND THAT HOUSE, OF COURSE, WENT TO THE PLAINTIFF.

I THEN MOVED BACK TO MEXICO AND I
UNDERSTAND THAT A YEAR OR SO LATER THE COURT
ORDERED THAT HOUSE TURNED OVER TO MR. KREMEN.

DURING THAT PERIOD OF TIME I WAS IN MEXICO. THIS WAS NOT A SITUATION WHERE I, I PUT MY THUMB UP AT THE COURT AND RAN TO MEXICO NOT TO PAY THE JUDGMENT.

I WAS LIVING IN MEXICO. THE OPERATIONS

ORIGINALLY FOR SEX.COM WERE IN MEXICO AND THE WHOLE

COMPLETE BUSINESS WAS LOCATED IN MEXICO AND I HAD

OBLIGATIONS UNFORTUNATELY TO THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT

AND TO THE EMPLOYEES IN MEXICO, OBLIGATIONS WHICH

INVOLVED CRIMINALITY RELATIVE TO THE COURT ORDERED

ME NOT TO TRANSFER ANY FUNDS IN THIS NOVEMBER 27TH,

2000 ORDER.

UNFORTUNATELY, YOUR HONOR, IN OUR
BUSINESS WE WERE DOING WIRE TRANSFERS ON A DAILY
BASIS AND WIRE TRANSFERS AS MR. IDELL MENTIONED
WERE PREVIOUSLY ORDERED.

I WENT AND RETRIEVED TWO CASHIER'S

CHECKS. I ALSO CONTACTED A BANK OVERSEAS. I WAS

SUCCESSFUL IN HAVING THEM RETURN THE MONEY AND THE

WELLS FARGO BANK RECORDS CLEARLY SHOW THAT.

15:26:24 1 1 :28 2 15:26:32 3 15:26:34 4 15:26:38 5 15:26:40 6 15:26:44 7 15:26:48 8 15:26:48 9 15:26:54 10 15:26:58 11 15:27:00 12 15:27:02 13 :06 14 15:27:14 16 15:27:14 17 15:27:18 18 15:27:22 19 15:27:22 20 15:27:24 21 15:27:26 22 15:27:30 23 15:27:34 24 15:27:36 25

I RETRIEVED TWO CASHIER'S CHECKS. I, I

TOOK THOSE TWO CASHIER'S CHECKS AND I GAVE THEM TO

MY ATTORNEY AND THEY WERE FORWARDED TO THE COURT.

AND PRIOR TO THAT HAPPENING, ONCE I

BECAME AWARE OF THE COURT ORDER, I NOTIFIED

MR. KREMEN BY PHONE THAT, THAT THE WIRE TRANSFERS

HAD TAKEN PLACE AND I WAS IN THE PROCESS OF

RETRIEVING THOSE FUNDS.

UNBEKNOWNST TO ME THE FIBER COMPANIES

THAT THOSE FIVE CASHIER'S CHECKS WERE ISSUED TO

WENT TO THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT AND FILED CRIMINAL

CHARGES. I WAS DETAINED.

IT WASN'T A SITUATION WHERE I JUST SAID

I'M NOT COMING BACK TO YOUR COURT. I WAS

PHYSICALLY DETAINED, A BAIL HAD TO BE SET AND I HAD

PROCEEDINGS IN MEXICO.

A MEXICAN CITIZEN HAD TO PUT UP HIS

PROPERTY AND I HAD TO PUT UP A BAIL TO GUARANTEE MY

APPEARANCE.

I WAS PROHIBITED IN A PERIOD OF TIME OF NOT LEAVING MEXICO.

ON TOP OF THAT I WAS CONTACTED BY THE RECEIVER IN THE CASE GEORGE FISHER. I TOLD HIM THAT I WOULD BE MORE THAN HAPPY TO COOPERATE WITH HIM.

15:27:36 1	I OFFERED DEPOSITIONS TO THE, TO THE
3 140 2	PLAINTIFF AND MY ATTORNEY MR. DORBAND AT THE TIME.
15:27:46 3	I KEPT GETTING SANCTIONS AND I WAS STUCK
15:27:48 4	IN A SITUATION THAT THERE WASN'T MUCH I COULD DO.
15:27:52 5	DURING THAT PERIOD OF TIME I SUFFERED A
15:27:54 6	HEART ATTACK AND I REQUIRED SURGERY. MY OBLIGATION
15:27:58 7	WHEN MY OBLIGATION IN MEXICO ENDED I CLEARLY HAD
15:28:02 8	A DUTY TO APPEAR BEFORE YOUR COURT. INSTEAD I
15:28:06 9	NEEDED SOME SURGERY AND I TOOK OFF OVERSEAS TO HAVE
15:28:10 10	THE SURGERY.
15:28:10 11	THE COURT: MR. COHEN, IT SOUNDS LIKE
15:28:12 12	THAT THERE ARE LOTS OF EXPLANATIONS FOR VARIOUS
15:28:14 13	PARTS OF THIS, AND AS I SAID, I'M INTERRUPTING YOU
: :18 14	NOW BECAUSE THERE WILL BE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU TO
15:28:20 15	OFFER THAT.
15:28:20 16	I CAN IMAGINE HOW ANXIOUS YOU ARE TO GET
15:28:24 17	THAT TOLD AND BUT AS I SAID I WANT IT UNDER OATH
15:28:28 18	BECAUSE THEN IT'S
15:28:30 19	DEFENDANT COHEN: I UNDERSTAND.
15:28:30 20	THE COURT: IT HAS PENALTIES THAT
15:28:32 21	ASSURE THAT AT LEAST YOU ARE COGNIZANT TO THE
15:28:38 22	CREDIBILITIES IMPORTANT TO THE COURT.
15:28:40 23	SO I'M GOING TO WAIT UNTIL THESE
15:28:42 24	PROCEEDINGS THAT I'VE OUTLINED.
15:28:44 25	I ASSURE YOU, IT SOUNDS LIKE YOU'RE WELL

15:28:46 <b>1</b>	REPRESENTED HERE, THAT I WILL HEAR YOUR
1 יי נ	EXPLANATIONS AND I'LL TRY AND KEEP THIS MOVING AND
15:28:52 3	DO IT AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.
15:28:54 4	THE DEFENDANT: THANK YOU.
15:28:54 5	MR. AGAJANIAN: THANK YOU VERY MUCH, YOUR
15:28:56 6	HONOR.
15:28:56 7	THE COURT: I'LL SEE YOU AT 1:30 ON THE
15:28:58 8	21ST.
15:28:58 9	MR. AGAJANIAN: THANK YOU, YOUR HONOR.
15:29:00 10	THE COURT: YOU'RE REMANDED TO CUSTODY
15:29:02 11	PENDING THESE PROCEEDINGS.
15:29:04 12	(WHEREUPON, THE PROCEEDINGS IN THIS
15:29:04 13	MATTER WERE CONCLUDED.)
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Exhibit "B"

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
SAN JOSE DIVISION

GARY KREMEN, ET AL., ) C-98-20718-JW )
PLAINTIFFS, ) DECEMBER 4, 2006

V. )
STEPHEN COHEN, ET AL., ) PAGES 1-44
DEFENDANTS. )

THE PROCEEDINGS WERE HELD BEFORE

THE HONORABLE UNITED STATES DISTRICT

JUDGE JAMES WARE

APPEARANCES:

FOR THE PLAINTIFFS: MR. IDELL & SEITEL

BY: RICHARD J. MR. IDELL

465 CALIFORNIA STREET

SUITE 300

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94104

DILLON & GERARDI

BY: TIMOTHY P. DILLON

4660 LA JOLLA VILLAGE DRIVE

SUITE 775

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92122

FOR THE DEFENDANTS: THE LAW OFFICE OF STEVE EMERY

TEICH

BY: STEVEN EMERY TEICH

1390 MARKET STREET

SUITE 310

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94102

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER: IRENE RODRIGUEZ, CSR, CRR

CERTIFICATE NUMBER 8074

Page 2 1 SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA DECEMBER 4, 2006 PROCEEDINGS (WHEREUPON, COURT CONVENED AND THE 5 FOLLOWING PROCEEDINGS WERE HELD:) THE CLERK: CALLING CASE NUMBER 98-20718, GARY KREMEN VERSUS STEPHEN COHEN. MR. IDELL: GOOD MORNING, YOUR HONOR. RICHARD MR. IDELL APPEARING ON BEHALF OF THE 10 PLAINTIFF. MR. DILLON: TIM DILLON ALSO ON BEHALF OF 12 THE PLAINTIFF. 13 MR. TEICH: GOOD MORNING. STEVE TEICH 14 APPEARING FOR THE DEFENDANT WHO IS IN CUSTODY AND 15 HE'S BEING BROUGHT OUT. 16 THE COURT: VERY WELL. MR. COHEN HAS 17 JOINED US NOW. THIS IS A MOTION FOR A RELEASE FROM 18 CUSTODY. 19 MR. TEICH: YES, YOUR HONOR. 20 IF THE COURT RECALLS AT THE LAST CALLING 21 OF THE CASE BACK IN JUNE, I THINK, 19TH, 2006 AND 22 AT THAT HEARING THE COURT HAD INDICATED THAT, THAT 23 IT HAD CONTEMPLATED HAVING MR. COHEN RELEASED IN THAT IT WAS DIFFICULT FOR HIM TO OBTAIN THE RECORDS 25 THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN NECESSARY FOR HIM TO, TO SHOW

- WILL GRANT THAT SO THAT YOU CAN TRACE HIS MOVEMENTS
- 2 AROUND THE WORLD BEFORE THIS SO THAT YOU CAN
- DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT HE HAS ACCOUNTS THERE, BUT
- 4 THIS CONTINUING TO BE HELD IN CUSTODY, IN CUSTODY
- IS A OUESTION BEFORE THE COURT.
- 6 MR. IDELL: WELL, YOUR HONOR, I JOIN WITH
- 7 MR. DILLON. I'M VERY CONCERNED THAT IF MR. COHEN
- 8 IS RELEASED, IT WILL BE FUTILE TO HAVE FURTHER
- 9 HEARINGS HERE BECAUSE HE WON'T RETURN AND HE WILL
- BE GONE AND THAT WILL BE THAT AND I THINK IT WOULD
- HAVE BEEN DONE ON THE BASIS OF, OF, OF THIS LETTER
- FROM THE BANK WHICH DOESN'T GIVE A COMPLETE, A
- 13 COMPLETE SET OF INFORMATION AS TO, AS TO WHAT THAT
- 14 E-MAIL IS ALL ABOUT.
- I MEAN, ONE THING IS FOR SURE, THE
- 16 E-MAILS ARE THERE UNLESS, UNLESS, UNLESS MR. COHEN
- WAS DRAFTING THOSE E-MAILS, BECAUSE HE WAS PLAYING
- 18 A GAME, OR, OR SOMETHING ELSE, THEY HAVE TO HAVE
- 19 SOME MEANING. WHY WOULD ANYBODY DO SUCH A THING?
- 20 AND THE GOOGLE DECLARATION EXPLAINS QUITE CLEARLY
- 21 HOW, HOW THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE E-MAIL
- 22 SHOWS THAT IT WAS, IN FACT, CREATED AND SENT ON
- THEIR SYSTEM.
- AND SO IT HAS TO HAVE SOME, SOME MEANING,
- 25 AND SO, AND SO TO ME WE ARE AT A POINT WHERE WE

- 1 INTEND TO APPEAR HERE BECAUSE THE FAILURE TO APPEAR
- 2 IF I ORDER YOU TO BE HERE IS YET ANOTHER VIOLATION
- OF, OF A COURT ORDER AND SO I WOULD -- MY ORDER OF
- 4 RELEASE WOULD SAY YOU ARE ORDERED TO BE HERE ON
- 5 FEBRUARY 26TH AT, AT -- WELL, THIS WOULD BE A CIVIL
- 6 MATTER. SO AT 9:00 O'CLOCK FOR, FOR A, FOR A, AN
- EXAMINATION OF, OF JUDGMENT DEBTOR.
- 8 AND, AND SINCE I'M, I'M ORDERING THAT
- 9 HERE WITH YOU PRESENT IN COURT, IT WON'T BE ANY
- EXCUSE THAT YOU SOMEHOW DIDN'T UNDERSTAND THAT YOU
- WANTED TO PERSONALLY BE HERE, YOU HAVE TO
- PHYSICALLY PERSONALLY BE HERE UNLESS COUNSEL
- 13 STIPULATED TO EXCUSE YOU BECAUSE LOTS CAN HAPPEN
- 14 BETWEEN NOW AND THEN WHERE YOU MIGHT SATISFY THEM
- AS TO INFORMATION BUT ALTHOUGH THAT EXAMINATION YOU
- WOULD BE SWORN BY THE COURT AND BE BOUND TO ANSWER
- ANY OUESTIONS THAT COUNSEL MIGHT PUT TO YOU FOR
- 18 THAT PURPOSE.
- DO YOU UNDERSTAND?
- THE DEFENDANT: YES, I DO, SIR.
- MR. IDELL: AND, YOUR HONOR, ALONG THOSE
- LINES, WE DO NOT HAVE ANY ADDRESS FOR MR. COHEN.
- 23 WE WOULD BE ASKED WE BE ALLOWED TO SERVE ANY PAPERS
- ON MR. TEICH OR WHOEVER IT IS THAT IS GOING TO BE
- 25 COUNSEL FOR MR. COHEN FROM THIS DAY FORWARD SO WE

- DON'T HAVE ANY PROBLEMS WE HAVE RUN INTO IN THE
- 2 PAST WHERE MR. COHEN IS NOT IN CUSTODY TELLING HIM
- WE DIDN'T PROPERLY SERVE HIM OR HE DOESN'T HAVE AN
- 4 ADDRESS.
- THE STATEMENT WAS MADE EARLY TODAY THAT
- 6 HE LIVES IN SAN DIEGO AND THAT'S THE FIRST WE HEARD
- 7 OF THAT BECAUSE WE DON'T HAVE AN ADDRESS BUT TO GET
- 8 AROUND ALL OF THAT WE WOULD ASK THAT WE BE ALLOWED
- 9 TO SERVE MR. TEICH AND GOALWIN WITH ANY PAPERS TO
- 10 BE SERVED ON MR. COHEN SO WE CAN DO THAT.
- THE COURT: WHAT IS YOUR RESPONSE?
- MR. TEICH: COULD I HAVE ONE MOMENT? I
- HAVE NO PROBLEM ACCEPTING SERVICE. I'LL BE IN
- 14 CONTACT WITH MR. COHEN, BUT I FULLY EXPECT THAT FOR
- THE SUBSEQUENT PROCEEDINGS OF A CIVIL NATURE, THAT
- 16 HE WILL, HE WILL HAVE A DIFFERENT ATTORNEY OR
- 17 HIMSELF AND HE WILL BE HERE.
- MY SPECIALTY IS WHAT I HAVE ACCOMPLISHED
- 19 SO I DON'T WANT TO MAKE ANY MISREPRESENTATION TO
- THE COURT BUT I WILL CERTAINLY ACCEPT SERVICE AND I
- 21 WILL BE IN CONTACT WITH MR. COHEN AND IF WE GET A
- NEW CIVIL ATTORNEY, HE WILL -- I WILL MAKE SURE
- THAT HE CONTACTS -- SUBSTITUTES IN AND IS IN
- 24 CONTACT WITH THE COURT AND OTHER COUNSEL
- THE COURT: WELL, LET ME DO IT THIS WAY,

- 1 I'LL CONDITION HIS RELEASE ON YOUR, ON YOUR SERVING
- 2 AS, AS COUNSEL FOR PURPOSES OF SERVING ANY NOTICE
- ON MR. COHEN; THAT IS, SERVICE ON, ON YOUR OFFICE
- 4 AT 1390 MARKET STREET IN SAN FRANCISCO WOULD BE
- 5 SUFFICIENT FOR PURPOSES OF NOTICE AND SERVICE OF
- 6 ANY MATTERS THAT HAVE TO BE SERVED ON MR. COHEN.
- 7 AND, AND, OF COURSE, HE MAY SUBSTITUTE
- 8 SOMEONE ELSE BUT THAT SUBSTITUTION WOULD REQUIRE,
- 9 WOULD REQUIRE AN ORDER OF THE COURT; IN OTHER
- WORDS, I WON'T ACCEPT THE LAWYERS AGREEING TO IT.
- I WANT SOMEONE PHYSICALLY PRESENT IN
- 12 COURT AGREEING TO NOW SUBSTITUTE, SUBSTITUTE SO
- 13 THAT YOU WOULD THEN BE RELIEVED OF ORDER OF COURT.
- UNTIL RELIEVED, SERVICE ON YOU IS SUFFICIENT FOR
- SERVICE ON MR. COHEN. THE IMPORT OF THAT,
- MR. COHEN, IS THAT IF I ISSUE AN ORDER, AND IT'S
- SERVED ON MR. TEICH, THAT'S CONSIDERED SERVICE ON
- 18 YOU. YOU COULD BE HELD IN CONTEMPT FOR VIOLATING
- AN ORDER OF THE COURT IF IT'S SERVED ON YOU AND YOU
- 20 HAVE NOTICE OF IT. BY MR. TEICH STEPPING FORWARD
- 21 AND ACCEPTING SERVICE ON YOUR BEHALF, THE COURT
- 22 WILL REGARD THAT AS PERSONAL SERVICE ON YOU.
- AND DO YOU UNDERSTAND THAT, SIR?
- THE DEFENDANT: I UNDERSTAND THAT AND
- <sup>25</sup> ACCEPT THAT.

- THE COURT: AND DO YOU AGREE TO ALLOW
- <sup>2</sup> MR. TEICH TO SERVE IN THAT REGARD?
- THE DEFENDANT: YES, SIR.
- THE COURT: AND, MR. TEICH, YOU'RE
- 5 AGREEING TO SERVE IN THAT REGARD?
- 6 MR. TEICH: ABSOLUTELY.
- MR. IDELL: YOUR HONOR, THE NEXT MATTER
- 8 IS THAT WE WOULD LIKE A STIPULATION THAT WE CAN
- 9 SUBMIT TO YOU LETTERS ROGATORY FOR THIS OUT OF THE
- 10 COUNTRY DISCOVERY THAT WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO DO IN
- ORDER TO, TO GET FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING BANK
- 12 ACCOUNTS.
- WE DIDN'T HAVE THOSE LETTERS ROGATORY
- PREPARED FOR TODAY AND WE WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT,
- THAT GOING FORWARD WE'RE NOT GOING TO HAVE ANY
- 16 ISSUE OF, OF BEING ABLE TO GET THOSE LETTERS
- 17 ROGATORY ISSUED.
- THE COURT: WHAT -- YOU WON'T -- THAT'S A
- 19 NORMAL CIVIL DISCOVERY PROCESS. YOU DON'T NEED A
- 20 STIPULATION FOR THAT.
- 21 ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS TO PREPARE THEM IN
- 22 PROPER FORM.
- MR. IDELL: AND SUBMIT THEM TO YOUR
- HONOR.
- THE COURT: YES.

Exhibit "C"

Document 1244 Filed 12/05/2006

Case 5:98-cv-20718-JW

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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
SAN JOSE DIVISION

Gary Kremen,

٧.

NO. C 98-20718 JW

Plaintiff,

.

ORDER GRANTING DEFENDANT'S APPLICATION FOR RELEASE FROM CUSTODY

Page 1 of 9

Stephen Michael Cohen, et al.,

Defendants.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Defendant Stephen Michael Cohen ("Cohen") brings this Application for Release from Custody. Cohen contends that he has satisfactorily purged himself of civil contempt. The Court conducted a hearing on December 4, 2006. Based on the papers submitted to date and the oral arguments of counsel, the Court GRANTS Cohen's Application for Release from Custody and ORDERS the United States Marshals to release Cohen.

### II. BACKGROUND

The facts of the underlying dispute, now eight years old, are well-known to all involved. The Court briefly reviews only the pertinent background:

On November 27, 2000, the Court granted Plaintiff Gary Kremen's ("Kremen") Motion for Preliminary Injunction. At that time, the Court found that Cohen had (1) improperly thwarted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Defendant originally filed this Application ex parte. Upon receipt of the Application, the Court set an expedited briefing schedule and invited opposition from Plaintiff. The Plaintiff timely filed their opposition.

Kremen's efforts to obtain discovery of financial information; (2) engaged in activities designed to conceal money made from the operation of the sex.com website; and (3) transferred substantial assets to entities for the purpose of avoiding ultimate financial responsibility at the conclusion of the litigation. (Order Granting Motion for Preliminary Injunction at 2, hereafter, "PI Order," Docket Item No. 440.) The Court ordered Cohen, *inter alia*, to: (1) return \$25 million, plus all revenue generated from sex.com between November 27, 2000 and the entry of final judgment in the action, to the United States to be held by the Court pending final judgment; (2) within three weeks, provide a full accounting of the sex.com domain site operation; and (3) within seven days, to sign all waivers to the release of tax returns, bank account records, and FOIA waivers for all defendants between 1995 and the present. (PI Order at 3-5.)

Following the issuance of the preliminary injunction, Kremen alerted the Court that

Defendants appeared to be violating the preliminary injunction in several respects, including (1)

transferring funds in excess of \$1 million; (2) failing to deposit the required money with the Court;

(3) failing to sign timely or complete waivers; and (4) failing to submit audits or submitting
incomplete audits. (Order Holding Defendants in Civil Contempt at 3, hereafter, "Contempt Order,"

Docket Item No. 541.) On February 7, 2001, the Court issued an Order to Show Cause why

Defendants should not be held in contempt of court. (See Docket Item No. 498.) On February 12,

2001, the Court ordered Defendants held in contempt, for a related failure to appear at Plaintiff's

counsel's office to sign various releases. (See Docket Item No. 512.). On February 28, 2001, no

Defendant appeared at the hearing on the Court's February 7 Order to Show Cause. (Contempt

Order at 3.) Defense counsel presented an unsubstantiated claim that Cohen was under legal

restraint in Mexico, which the Court disregarded due to improper authentication. Id.

On March 2, 2001, the Court ordered Defendants held in civil contempt and issued a warrant for Cohen's arrest. (Contempt Order at 5-6.) As additional sanctions, the Court ordered that Defendants were to be precluded from offering any evidence concerning the income and expenses generated in connection with sex.com, and the alleged bona fide transfer of the domain name

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sex.com from Cohen or any other defendant to any other entity. Moreover, the Court found established for purposes of the action that Defendants Ynata, OFIL, Sandman, and "any other Cohen-affiliated entity connected in any way with the domain name sex.com, are sham entities and are, as a matter of fact and law, the alter-egos of Cohen and the alter-egos of one another." <u>Id.</u> Subsequently, on April 3, 2001, judgment was entered for Kremen and against Defendants in the amount of \$65 million. (<u>See</u> Docket Item No. 596.)

Cohen was arrested by the United States Marshal on October 27, 2005. He is currently incarcerated in the Santa Clara County Main Jail. Between October 2005 and June 2006, the Court held monthly status conferences regarding the status of Cohen's contempt. At issue during the last status conference in June 2006 was whether Cohen had, in October 2005, directed the Nordea Bank of Lithuania to transfer approximately \$4.1 million USD to the Deutsche Bank in the name of Mexico Lending, an affiliated entity of Cohen's. Both sides have presented evidence on this question.

Kremen has presented the following evidence:

On December 12, 2005, Kremen subpoenaed Google to request information relating to Cohen and his known related or affiliated entities. Cohen signed a waiver to allow Kremen to access his "gmail," (Google electronic mail) account. In August 2006, Google responsively produced documents relating to the <a href="mailto:scohen15@gmail.com">scohen15@gmail.com</a> account. (Declaration of Nadya Y. Spivack in Support of Plaintiff's Opposition to Defendant's Ex Parte Application for Release from Custody or in the Alternative an Expedited Hearing Date ¶ 3, hereafter, "Decl. Spivack," Docket Item No. 1235.) Two emailss were sent from <a href="mailto:scohen15@gmail.com">scohen15@gmail.com</a> to <a href="mailto:info@nordea.lt">info@nordea.lt</a> on October 4, 2005 and October 16, 2005. (Decl. Spivack ¶ 4.) The emails contained an attached memo, which stated the following:

To: Nordea Bank Lithuania From: Stephen M. Cohen CODE: MAVERICK3452

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at 465:21-466:10, hereafter, "Ex Parte Application," Docket Item No. 1226.) Cohen stated that the "gmail" account <a href="mailto:scohen15@gmail.com">scohen15@gmail.com</a> was opened to receive and store large documents because it provided a significant amount of free space. (Ex Parte Application, Ex. D at 598:25-599:8.) He provided the password to WLCom employees, a "couple of [his] friends," and possibly his daughter, Jhuliana Cohen. (Ex Parte Application Ex. D, 596:17-598:24.)

Cohen admitted to using the password "maverick" in the past, but stated that he had never used "maverick3542." (Ex Parte Application Ex. D at 601:15-18.) He testified that he had never received a DHL letter or a credit card from Nordea Bank. (Ex Parte Application, Ex. D at 603:11-18.) Cohen has presented a certification from the Lithuanian Branch of the Nordea Bank which states in pertinent part as translated into English:

We hereby inform that **Mr. Stephen Michael Cohen** and **Mexico Lending** does not have and never had any bank account with Nordea Bank Finland Plc Lithuanian Branch. A money transfer of EUR 3,746,000 from Nordea Bank Finland Plc Lithuanian Branch to Deutsche Bank has not been made in October 2005.

(Ex Parte Application Ex. H.) Cohen further submitted evidence that no "Hans Dizengof" was employed by Nordea Bank's Lithuania Branch. (Ex Parte Application Ex. I.)

### III. STANDARDS

Whether contempt is civil or criminal is determined by the purpose of the contempt sanction. A civil contempt sanction "is intended to coerce the contemnor to comply with the court's orders in the future, and the sanction is conditioned upon continued noncompliance." In contrast, a criminal contempt sanction "is intended to punish past conduct, and is imposed for a definite amount or period without regard for the contemnor's future conduct." Richmark Corp. v. Timber Falling Consultants, 959 F.2d 1468, 1481 (9th Cir. 1992).

The standard for finding a party in civil contempt is as follows: the moving party has the initial burden to show by clear and convincing evidence that the contemnor violated a specific, definite Court order. The burden then shifts to the contemnor to demonstrate why he or she was unable to comply. Federal Trade Comm'n v. Affordable Media, LLC, 179 F.3d 1228, 1239 (9th Cir.

1999). A contempt proceeding does not "open to reconsideration the legal or factual basis of the order alleged to have been disobeyed and thus become a retrial of the original controversy." <u>United States v. Rylander</u>, 460 U.S. 752, 756-57 (1983). This is because "[t]he procedure to enforce a court's order commanding or forbidding an act should not be so inconclusive as to foster experimentation with disobedience." <u>Id.</u>

A defendant may assert a present inability to comply with the order in question; where compliance is impossible, neither the moving party nor the court has any reason to proceed with a civil contempt action. <u>Id.</u> (citing <u>Maggio v. Zeitz</u>, 333 U.S. 56, 75-76 (1948)). The defendant bears the burden of production. <u>Id.</u> (internal citations omitted). A mere assertion of inability to comply is insufficient; rather, the party asserting impossibility as a defense must show "categorically and in detail" why he or she is unable to comply. <u>Affordable Media</u>, 179 F.3d at 1241.

### **IV. DISCUSSION**

In its March 2, 2001 Order, the Court directed that Cohen be held in custody until he performs the following four actions:

- a) return[s] to the United States and deposit[s] with the Court \$25,000,000 or such lesser sum as he shows is warranted by his economic circumstances;
- b) return[s] to the United States all revenue generated from sex.com;
- c) provide[s] a full accounting of the sex.com domain name operation;
- d) effect[s] the turnover of \$1.1 million in bank funds to foreign accounts after being ordered by the Court not to transfer any such funds.

(March 2, 2001 Order at 6.) The Court is now satisfied that Cohen has complied with these conditions to the best of his ability. Cohen has repeatedly testified that he has no further funds to pay and is not in a position to locate any further documents while in jail. (See, e.g., Ex Parte Application, Ex. D at 585:7-14, 627:8-629:7.) The Court is satisfied that Cohen has provided an accounting of assets to the extent that he is able from jail. (Ex Parte Application, Ex. F.) Lastly, Cohen contends that he made a bona fide attempt to recover the more than one million dollars that he wire transferred at the time of the Court's preliminary injunction of November 27, 2000, but that his efforts were stymied by the Mexican authorities. (See, e.g., Ex Parte Application at 9.) Cohen

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has not offered adequate evidence in this regard; however, the Court finds that holding Cohen in prison at this point would do nothing to effect the turnover of these funds six years after they were transferred.

Kremen has provided no evidence to rebut Cohen's contentions. Specifically, Kremen's opposition is filled with unsupported conclusory statements and speculation. Aside from the two emails described above, Kremen has provided no evidence that (1) Cohen actually had or has a bank account with Nordea Bank in Lithuania; (2) Cohen actually had or has a bank account with Deutsche Bank; (3) any bank actually received the emails purportedly sent by Cohen in October 2005; (4) any transfer of funds, let alone a transfer of nearly \$3.5 million Euros, took place.<sup>3</sup> Indeed, in the months since Cohen has been incarcerated, Kremen has uncovered no significant evidence that Cohen has outstanding funds in previously unknown bank accounts, or any other outstanding assets. Instead, Kremen invites the Court to join him in speculating where Cohen's allegedly hidden assets, accounts, and personal belongings might be:

The fact that Plaintiff is not able to confirm the account information at Nordea Bank is due to the fact that the account is not under Cohen's own name. The releases Cohen provided to Plaintiff do not release accounts held in the name of his wife, daughters, other individuals or entities that Cohen likes to use. The purported declaration from Nordea Bank that Cohen provides to this Court states that Cohen does not maintain an account – but fails to provide a list of all of his other alter ego and affiliated entities – several of which likely remain unknown to Plaintiff or anyone other than Cohen himself.

Despite Cohen's claims of ignorance about his personal belongings, Plaintiff is certain they reside with Cohen's wife, Rosa Cohen in Mexico, that Cohen knows about his documents whereabouts and that he is behind his documents disappearance. [sic] . . . The Court will also recall that at a hearing in this matter in March 2006, Cohen's attorney was able to produce Cohen's cancelled passport delivered to him by Rosa Cohen. It is no stretch of the imagination to believe she maintains his other documents until he is released.

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Kremen is informed and believe that Cohen uses and continues to use [named friends, family members, and attorneys], among others, and enlists their assistance in

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Under the circumstances, it is wholly unclear who sent the emails in question and who, if anyone, received it. These questions are unimportant, however, in the absence of any evidence that the 3.5 million Euros in question exist.

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conferencing bankers and third parties in order to effectuate the transfer of assets in violation of this Court's orders. . . .

Kremen is informed and believed that Cohen actively harassed and threatened his wife, Rosa Cohen, to prevent the completion of the settlement agreement [relating to various properties in Mexico.] Kremen is further informed and believes that Cohen actively worked with his Mexican attorney, Gustavo Cortez, to fraudulently file a lien on the real properties and thwart any efforts at transferring the properties.

(Plaintiff's Opposition to Defendant's Ex Parte Application for Release From Custody or in the Alternative an Expedited Hearing Date at 8, 10-13, Docket Item No. 1232.) The Court declines this invitation. Cohen has been incarcerated for more than one year, during which time Kremen has failed to locate evidence of hidden bank accounts or other assets. Under these circumstances, the only purpose of Cohen's continued incarceration would be punitive—an impermissible purpose for civil contempt sanctions. Accordingly, the Court finds it proper to order Cohen's release from prison.

### V. CONCLUSION

The Court GRANTS Cohen's Application for Release from Custody with the following conditions:

- 1) Cohen shall appear on **February 26, 2007 at 9 AM** for an examination of judgment/debtor satisfaction.
- 2) Service of papers upon Steve Teich, Cohen's current counsel, shall be deemed effective service upon Cohen. If Cohen should wish to substitute attorney, substitution must be approved by the Court. The motion for substitution of attorney shall be noticed in accordance with the Civil Local Rules of the Court.

Dated: December 5, 2006

United States District Judge

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THIS TO CERTIFY THAT COPIES OF THIS ORDER HAVE BEEN DELIVERED TO: 1 2 Chad S. Hummel chummel@manatt.com Christopher L. Wanger cwanger@manatt.com David Henry Dolkas ddolkas@mwe.com 3 George G. Weickhardt gweickhardt@ropers.com Glen H. Isaacs invalidaddress@invalidaddress.com Jack S. Yeh jyeh@manatt.com James M. Wagstaffe wagstaffe@kerrwagstaffe.com John P. Kern jkern@manatt.com Karl Stephen Kronenberger karl@kronenbergerlaw.com 6 Patricia De Fonte Patricia.DeFonte@idellseitel.com Richard J. Idell richard.idell@idellseitel.com 7 Steve Emery Teich steve.teich@sbcglobal.net 8 Terri R Hanley law@terrihanley.com Dated: December 5, 2006 Richard W. Wieking, Clerk 9 10 By: /s/ JW Chambers Elizabeth Garcia 11 **Courtroom Deputy** 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25

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